GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3302
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
SOYABEAN OIL
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India continue to have adverse effect from the arrivals of low cost soyabean oil from US and Latin American countries;

(b) if so, whether the crops in these nations are huge and subsidies are given on soya farming;

(c) whether this flow of soyabean oil into our country is likely to help to stabilize the price line;

(d) it not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the importers in these nations are producing manufactures certificate from appropriate authorities that oil is not extracted from genetically modified seed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Palm oil being the cheapest edible oil in the international market is imported in bulk quantity. Other edible oils like soyabean oil, sunflower oil etc. are imported in comparatively smaller quantities. The overall heavy import of edible oil has affected the Indian farmers including soyabean growers resulting in heavy decline in the prices of edible oils in the domestic market due to which the prices of oilseeds grown by farmers have also gone down.

(b): United States and Latin American countries are major producers of soyabean. The information relating to subsidies being given by these countries on soya farming is not available.

(c) & (d): The inflow of soyabean oil into our country is causing a decline in the prices of edible oils and oilseeds in domestic market which are acting as demotivating factors for farmers growing oilseeds including soyabean. The Government has to undertake procurement of oilseeds under MSP to ensure remunerative price to the farmers.

(e): As per the information made available neither the importers are producing nor the custom is asking them to produce certificate from the suppliers that soyabean oil is not extracted from genetically modified seeds.